

REMARKS / DISCUSSION OF ISSUES

Claims 1-8, 11, and 12 are pending in the application. Claims 1-8 and 11 are amended. New claim 12 is added.

Applicant(s) thank(s) the Examiner for acknowledging the claim for priority and receipt of certified copies of all the priority document(s).

The Examiner is respectfully requested to state whether the drawing(s) (if any) are acceptable.

The Office action rejects claims 1-11 under 35 USC § 101 as lacking a recitation of a practical application as part of the claimed invention. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection regarding claims 1-8 and 11, and as it may apply to new claim 12. The independent claims are amended to recite one or more practical applications, as required by the examiner. New claim 12 also recites a practical application.

As to the discussion in the Office action about a "carrier wave" (which words, it is noted, do not appear anywhere in the claims), an otherwise patentable claim is not made unpatentable merely because it recites production, transmission, or reception of a signal, whether by carrier wave or otherwise.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the 35 USC § 101 rejection of all pending rejected claims (and as it may apply to new claim 12) is respectfully requested.

Claim 9, which recited a signal, and claim 10, which was similar but not identical to new claim 12 and recited a storage medium including the signal of claim 9, are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of their subject matter. Applicant(s) reserve(s) the right to pursue the subject matter of the canceled claim(s) in subsequent prosecution in this, a divisional, or other continuing application.

Applicant(s) thank(s) the examiner for stating that claims 1-11 are allowed over the prior art of record. Accordingly, since all the claims now comply with 35 USC § 101 as well, all of the pending claims are patentable and should be allowed.

In view of the foregoing, applicant(s) respectfully request(s) that the Examiner withdraw the objection(s) and/or rejection(s) of record, allow all the pending claims,

and find the application in condition for allowance. If any points remain in issue that may best be resolved through a personal or telephonic interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

/Eric M. Bram/

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